

STATE SENATOR • JIM BARCIA • 31ST DISTRICT

Barcia Press Release

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SENATOR BARCIA APPLAUDS \$2.9 MILLION INVESTMENT IN SANILAC COUNTY ROAD PROJECTS

Barcia: “Improved roads, more jobs and better quality of life”

LANSING -- Senator Jim Barcia (D-Bay City) today applauded the announcement of \$2.9 million in state road improvement funding which will include an M-25 overlay from the St. Claire County line to the Village of Lexington. The decision to move forward this year with the project came as a result of Governor Granholm’s Transportation and Economic Development package announced yesterday.

“This is good news for Sanilac County,” Sen. Barcia said. “We will see much needed improvements to our transportation system, and we will create jobs to accomplish it.”

The Governor’s transportation agreement will create 7,000 jobs statewide by addressing transportation and economic development needs of communities. This plan also facilitates more than \$400 million in road programs outlined in the Governor’s Local Jobs Today initiative, which for the first time grants state funds to local communities for investments to match federal dollars.

Other key components of the plan include: changes to the FY06 transportation budget that will restore \$1 million to Amtrak; legislation that allows communities to ask voters to approve mass transit projects; and a \$15 million boost for Travel Michigan to market the state to out-of-state travelers.

"Today's announcement is about driving job creation in Michigan and paving the way for growth all across our state," said Governor Granholm. "From going anywhere and doing anything to attract jobs Michigan, to investing in the infrastructure that supports commerce, we have a targeted economic road map and it's moving Michigan in the right direction."

“These projects will not only impact the local economy and create jobs for area residents, but they will impact economic development statewide,” Sen. Barcia said.

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Sen. Barcia represents Senate District 31 that includes Arenac, Bay, Huron, Sanilac, and Tuscola counties. He is a member of the Senate Appropriations Committee where he serves as vice chair of the subcommittees on Agriculture, Environmental Quality, Natural Resources, and Transportation.